

M-G-M's "Piccadilly Jim" Opens BIG, Loew's, Toronto

# CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 28, No. 26

TORONTO 2, CANADA

October 17th, 1936

**GREAT**

as a Road-Show

**GREATER**

at Popular Prices

**GREATEST**

attraction ever to  
start a New Season!

METRO-GOLDWYN-**Z**-MAYER'S  
*Great* **ZIEGFELD**

PUBLISHED BY  
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED  
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2



# THE GREAT ZIEGFELD

## AT POPULAR PRICES

Certainly we knew its nation-wide Road-show success had laid the ground-work. But nobody could foretell its amazing career at Popular Prices. As we go to press new hold-overs are reported by the dozens. What a start for your M-G-M 1936-37 year!





# THE GREAT REVIEWS

# THE SMASH GROSSES!

## ALDINE THEATRE, *Philadelphia, Pa. . . .*

The first week's gross in both money and attendance tops anything to play the Aldine Theatre in the past three years. On Saturday and Sunday thousands of ticket buyers were unable to gain admission to the fourteen hundred seat theatre, as overflow crowds got out of control.

## LOEW'S STATE, *Cleveland, Ohio . . .*

The band wagon rush started early Friday afternoon and Saturday and Sunday it was S R O from the opening gong with a block long line waiting Sunday morning for the reopening of the box-office.

## LOEW'S PENN, *Pittsburgh, Pa. . . .*

"Twenty-five minute wait for seats" was the often repeated slogan for the opening week-end of DODSWORTH. Showing of picture was interrupted by constant outbursts of applause from the audience and second day's gross was almost double opening day.

resent *Sinclair Lewis'*

# DODSWORTH

Released thru UNITED ARTISTS



## Reviews and Previews

Loew's Theatre - Manager, Jules Bernstein  
"DODSWORTH"  
Goldwyn - U.A.

**F**ROM the pen of Sinclair Lewis, perhaps the most widely read American author of modern days, comes this down-to-the-earth story of the trials and tribulations of middle-aged married life.

Walter Huston, Toronto-born star, who played in the stage version of "Dodsworth" was picked up by producer Samuel Goldwyn to enact the title role on the screen, also. For the part of Fran Dodsworth, talented Ruth Chatterton was chosen, and a splendid supporting cast headed by Paul Lukas and Mary Astor.

The story is simple and direct, but a mature and intelligent audience will sense the subtle depth of the plot, and the lesson which it contains both for husbands and wives. Sam Dodsworth, a millionaire automobile manufacturer in a small midwestern city, retires from business. He and his wife set sail for Europe on the Queen Mary, he to visit the beauty spots of the continent, the art centres, etc., and she to prove to herself and to Sam that she is still young enough to attract the men. On board the Queen Mary, Fran indulges in a rather indiscreet flirtation with a ship-board acquaintance by the name of Lockert. Sam overlooks this episode, hoping that when they arrive in Europe she will see things in a different light. In Paris, Fran succeeds in gaining entree to the ultra-sophisticated type of Society, while Sam visits the Louvre, the Palais de Versailles, and other arty centres. Fran, in the meantime, has taken up with Arnold Iselin, whom Sam considers a gigolo. In a dramatic scene, Sam entreats her to come back to America with him, and when she refuses, sails alone, determined to let her have her fling, and thinking that she will soon become tired of the life she is leading, and return to him.

**B**ACK in America Sam learns of her latest infatuation, the youthful nobleman, Kurt von Obersdorf, and fed up sails once more for Europe. A showdown between the Dodsworths ensues, and Fran informs Sam that she is suing him for divorce, intending to marry Kurt. Sam, disgusted with her, and partially blaming himself for having been over-interested in his work in former years, sets out to travel through Europe. On the way he meets the charming Edith Enright, and finding happiness in her companionship, the two settle down in Naples. Fran, in the meantime, is preparing to marry Kurt. The aged Baroness von Obersdorf, mother of Kurt, steps in and refuses to permit the marriage, first because of the great difference in their ages, and secondly because of their religious differences. Fran, disillusioned and beaten, sends for Sam, and tries to win him back. In a most dramatic scene, the husband, who formerly has adored her, sees her for what she actually is, and after giving her a sound tongue-lashing, leaves her and returns to Edith.

The picture has been tastefully handled, with all associated with the production deserving great credit. Sidney Howard, who adapted the book for the stage, also wrote the screen play, and has done a very capable job. Comedy and drama is abundantly sprinkled throughout the picture, with both well done. The acting is of exceptional excellence, with Huston and Miss Chatterton as the Dodsworths turning in fine performances. Mary Astor as Edith Enright is a pleasant surprise, being the

best work she has done in quite a long time. She makes the role of Edith a sympathetic and human woman, with whom you know Sam Dodsworth will find the happiness he deserves. Paul Lukas as Iselin, David Niven as Lockert and Gregory Gayo as Kurt are most satisfactory in their respective roles, and Spring Byington, Odette Myrtil and John Payne all add to the excellence of the production. Mme. Maria Ouspenskaya scores a personal triumph that rivals that of the stars. The elderly Mme. Maria's performance as the Baroness von Obersdorf is one of the highlights of the picture.

Credit for the fine direction goes to William Wyler, with Rudolph Mate handling the camera.

The picture is decidedly one for a mature audience, and not for children. The picture is not offensive in any way, but would have no appeal for the juvenile mind. Already established as a box-office champion in the big cities, it should draw equally well in small towns. This picture is Box-Office.

### PERSONAL MUSINGS

**C**ONGRATULATIONS to Ken Aneser, Production Manager of the Warner Bros. Home Office advertising and publicity department, who recently became the proud father of an eight pound boy. Both Mrs. Aneser and the son, John Kenneth, are doing very nicely, thank you, and I also understand that Ken is bearing up nobly.

**A** NEW arrival in Hollywood a few days ago was Charles Greville, a handsome young Englishman who has signed a contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

The reason for giving Mr. Greville special mention in this column is that he is better known in England as the Seventh Earl of Warwick, a prominent member of the peerage.

We suggest as the first starring vehicle for the youthful Earl, a historical production entitled, "Warwick, the King-Maker", the latter a prominent figure in English history.

**A**T the Madison Theatre this week was shown the latest of the Soviet government pictures, entitled "The Song of Happiness". This picture deals with a new phase of Soviet Russian life, namely the prisons, and the manner in which the Lords of the Soviet reform the prisoners, so that when—and if—they are released from the jails, they will become a credit to Stalin and to the Soviet.

The hero of the play is a lover—of all things—of the flute, and would much rather lie around and play his flute than work. When caught by his boss slacking and giving voice to his musical talents, he is reprimanded by the boss and in return attacks him. Thinking that he has murdered the man, he flees. He falls in with a thief and winds up in jail, where thanks to the kindness and understanding of his guards, he is given a free hand with his music. Later, he finds that he had not murdered the boss, and so he is free to return to his former haunts.

Apart from the fact that the picture is drab, I mean there is no colour in either the players' costumes or in the sets, that the dialogue is all in Russian with clumsy English titles, and that the picture may be classed as propaganda, I found "The Song of Happiness" very enjoyable.

**Sidney L. Bernstein, Pres. Bernstein Theatres, London, England, Announces  
16 New Theatres to be Added to Circuit, Cost \$5,000,000**



## Reviews and Previews

(Continued on Page 8)

**A**BOW to Paramount for some grand entertainment in "The Big Broadcast of 1937" which opened at the Imperial yesterday. It looks as if this company may have at last got out of the rut, and have started to make some good pictures once more.

The picture is a riot of fun and music, with Jack Benny, George Burns and Gracie Allen, and Ray Milland heading a cast which includes Leopold Stokowski, Benny Goodman, Shirley Ross and many others.

The sequence of Maestro Stokowski, leading his famous symphony orchestra in a number, is very cleverly handled, with the camera focused on the famed Stokowski hands for the greater part of the scene.

Martha Raye, seen recently in "Rhythm on the Range" makes her character one of the funniest in the picture, and her song "Vote for Mr. Rhythm" will bring down the house.

The picture has all the elements of good Box-Office, and should help Paramount pay off the old debts and get on to a dividend-paying basis.

**C**ONGRATULATIONS to Andy W. Smith, former Eastern and Canadian Sales - Manager of Warner Bros., who has been appointed General Sales - Manager of United Artists Corporation.

"Say L."

## Washington Film Digest

*Special to Canadian Moving Picture Digest  
From Digest's Washington Bureau.*

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 12—(CTP)

**A**CCORDING to a recent fortnightly summary of stock transactions issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox Film, has sold over 20,000 shares of common stock in his company. The transaction leaves Zanuck with 162,130 common shares.

On August 26, 1935, he reported to S.E.C. owning 183,979 shares of 20th Century-Fox common or 15 per cent of common stock outstanding. At that time he also reported holdings of 21,945 preferred. S.E.C. announced today Zanuck had reported no preferred sales. S.E.C. reports also showed John D. Clark had bought 200 shares 20th Century-Fox, bringing his total to 201.

Edward L. Alperson has sold 16,850 shares of Grand National leaving him 26,546 shares, S.E.C. also an-

nounced. Carl M. Lesserman also sold 2,500 shares of Grand National stock leaving him 2,900.

**C**ONFERENCES are soon to begin regarding the Paramount Reorganization matters and charting of receivership plans for report and resulting legislative action pertaining to bankruptcy for next session. Congressman Adolph Sabath, chairman of the Sabath Investigating Committee, and Murray Garsson, director Investigation, now at Boston, are planning to arrive in the Capital City for an initial conference.

A spokesman at Sabath's office told the Moving Picture Digest correspondent that final reports following supplemental report published last session would probably not be announced until after the Congressional session opened and Sabath had re-introduced his bankruptcy bill and had it referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**S**O many different alleged drafts of the so-called new Patman measure have been circulated in Washington that Canadian Moving Picture Digest's Washington Bureau wired Congressman Patman at his Texarkana, Texas home for confirmation of his intention to specifically include the motion picture industry in his new prospective bill to separate manufacturing from retailing. In reply Patman advised: "New bill to divorce manufacturing from retailing will describe motion picture exhibition as retailing."

Congressman Patman stated he "contemplates" introducing the new measure when Congress convenes in January and he is asking for interested parties to send him suggestions concerning the present frame-work of the prospective bill. It is evident that he will hear quite a bit from the motion picture industry now that it develops he is set to include movies in his new measure.

Meanwhile leading Democrats pointed out that the Texas Representative is acting solely on his own responsibility. The office of Senator Robinson, co-sponsor of the original Robinson-Patman Act, continued to maintain that the Arkansas Senator is not interested in any bill Patman may be drawing up.

Government legal heads told The Digest that the new Patman measure, which might result in barring producer theatres, was in danger of tangling directly with the copyright laws if the movie section — section four — remains intact.

Section Four of the embryonic bill states, as now written: "The exhibition of a motion picture for a charge shall be deemed to be a sale at retail."

Several Government legal lights point out that when a motion picture producer releases a film he holds all copyrights on it. Thus, if "retail sale" is interpreted to mean sale of goods to individuals and develops consequent loss of royalties, the section crosses the existent copyright law. Motion picture legal advisers in the Capital also maintained that Section Four "would not hold water", pointing to the impossibility of selling a non-tangible item such as film as "retail, wholesale, in lot or in any way save as entertainment."

**"Daniel Boone" for RKO Radio with George O'Brien. A Frontier Epic with Great Cast**



# British Film Digest

*Special to The Digest, from Dennison Thornton,  
London Correspondent.*

ONE of the strangest personalities in the British film industry must surely be Mr. J. Arthur Rank.

Millionaire miller, staunch Methodist, a man of strong religious sentiments and associations, Mr. Rank is steadily becoming one of the biggest powers in British film production. His milled millions are the backbone of C. M. Woolfe's organization — General Film Distributors; he has shares in Universal and is a director of Western Electric; he is backer of British National Films and builder of the new Pinewood Studios.

But Mr. Rank is also owner of the "Methodist Times", a paper that is just about as anti-motion picture in its policy as any publication could be! For years it has consistently attacked the cinema as an evil institution and not long ago it sponsored a book entitled "The Devil's Camera", one of the most violent and bitter assaults on the film industry ever published. Part-author of the book was R. G. Burnett, editor of Mr. Rank's own "Methodist Times"!

Surely an amazing situation this — a publisher using his own paper as a medium of propaganda against the very industry he is doing his utmost to develop!

## Wilcox-Neagle Plans

HERBERT WILCOX, the man who discovered and developed Anna Neagle, one of the few British-groomed feminine stars, is assigning his protegee the role of Lady Hamilton in a forthcoming picture dealing with that lady's romance with Nelson. A Hollywood star is being sought for the role of Nelson. You may recall that several years ago First-National produced this subject under the title of "The Divine Lady" with Corinne Griffith as Lady Hamilton and Victor Varconi as Nelson.

I understand the Battle of Trafalgar will not figure in the Wilcox version. The Battle of the Nile will be used instead. Co-operation of the Admiralty has been secured for the naval scenes, and exteriors are to be shot in Naples and the Mediterranean. Interiors will be done in the new Pinewood Studios.

## Give Us New Stars

THAT British producers have failed during the past year to fulfill their promise of developing feminine screen talent was emphasised at the recent Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association conference held at Eastbourne. The statement was made by Mr. Theo. Fligelstone, president of the Association, in the course of an address on progress in the British production field.

"Our producers have certainly made enormous progress in the past year", Mr. Fligelstone said, "but I wish we had the same progress in the establishment of British film stars. We are all anxious to see the British industry thoroughly established and we should feel very much happier if a serious effort was made to develop

further our own resources in screen talent, and to give us more of those young British actresses whom we have so often been promised".

It is certainly impossible to deny what Mr. Fligelstone says. With the exception of Jessie Matthews (G-B) and Anna Neagle (Herbert Wilcox) there are no feminine stars of front-rank importance in this country. Many talented young ladies have been signed-up for "grooming"; but apart from the first publicity notices one seldom hears anything further about them. Where are they and what happens to them?

## When Little Caesar

EDWARD G. ROBINSON who is the star in "Thunder in the City" for Atlantic Pictures, has even surprised himself that he is in a picture made in England. The circumstances of his visit are interesting. It appears that last year Edward G. received some attractive British offers. At the time, Hollywood stars and directors were starting their invasion of English studios. As far as Robinson was concerned he just couldn't see why so many of his colleagues were rushing over here. "Hollywood is the place for picture making", he said. "So why don't they stay here?" He himself rejected all British offers.

Suddenly a number of very good London-made pictures started circulating in the United States. Robinson went out and took a look at them. "Say, these British producers are really doing something", he said to his wife. Then came "The 39 Steps", "The Tunnel", "First a Girl", "Rhodes", and "Things to Come".

"Look here", Robinson told his wife, "I want you to go over to England and find out what the studios are like there. Make a thorough investigation and let me have a report".

And that's the why and the how of Edward G's stardom in "Thunder in the City".

With Lee Garmes having to return to Hollywood in accordance with terms of his contract with Ben Hecht and Charles McArthur, Marion Gering was engaged to replace Lee Garmes in the direction of "Thunder in the City". The picture was produced by Alexander Esway at the Denham studios. Esway was formerly a director for Paramount in Hollywood. He came to London, made a few films for BIP and then formed his own independent unit, Atlantic.

## Sawdust Stuff

TWO circus films are in preparation here. First and most important is B.I.P.'s "Star of the Circus", the screen version of "Jumbo", sensational New York stage show. John Monk Saunders has just completed the adaptation. The other sawdust subject is "Bux" which is being made by Standard International Pictures, a new independent company. It is from a novel by Hans Possendorf.

**Buddy Baer, Leading Heavyweight, Sings Over Horace Lapp Program,  
Royal York, Wednesday Night**





## Show Business



### Calleia Gets Lead in "Man of People"

Joseph Calleia, one of the screen's most sinister actors from whose pen has flowed the music and words of several popular love songs, will become a sympathetic villain for his next role in "Man of the People", which has been purchased by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Frank Dolan, author of the original novel, is in Hollywood preparing the adaptation. Present plans call for a starting date soon after Calleia completes his part with William Powell and Myrna Loy in "After the Thin Man".

### Hardwicke as Quartermaine

Sir Cedric Hardwicke started work this week on "King Solomon's Mines" at Shepherd's Bush. He plays the part of Quartermaine, with Roland Young, Paul Robeson, Anna Lee and John Loder. Robert Stevenson directs. The picture will be released in Canada by Empire Films.

### Universal Signs Radio Announcer for Shorts

Universal has signed Aloise Havrilla, popular radio announcer, as commentator for its "Stranger Than Fiction" series of short subjects. Mr. Havrilla is the 1936 winner of the newspaper-radio award for diction. There will be thirteen subjects in the series.

### COMPLETE Theatre Equipment and Supplies

Projectors and Parts.  
Motor Generators.  
Sound Screens.  
Lenses, Carbons, etc.  
Everything for the Theatre  
from Sheet to Street.

### Coleman Electric Co.

258 Victoria St.  
TORONTO, ONT.

### Mildred Law Joins "Melody for Two"

Mildred Law, one of the First National's most recently signed and most promising young people, has joined the cast of "Melody for Two", the musical picture now in production with James Melton and Patricia Ellis in the two leading roles. Other featured players in the line-up of principals are Dick Powell, Fred Keating, Craig Reynolds, Marie Wilson, Winifred Shaw and Gordon Elliott. Louis King is directing.

### Donald Wood for RKO Radio's "Coast Patrol"

RKO Radio Pictures has borrowed the services of Donald Wood, popular young actor, from Warner Bros., for one of the leading male roles in "Coast Patrol", which will co-star Victor McLaglen and Preston Foster.

Wood has been featured in several films, including "Once a Doctor", "Anthony Adverse", "A Tale of Two Cities", "The Story of Louis Pasteur" and "Road Gang".

### John Barrymore Set for "Maytime" Role

John Barrymore will appear with Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy in musical "Maytime", it is announced by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

This will be Barrymore's first since he played Mercutio in "Romeo and Juliet", with Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard.

In "Maytime", he will join a cast which includes Frank Morgan, Julie Haydon, Mary Phillips and Ted Healy.

Robert Z. Leonard, director of "The Great Ziegfeld", will direct. The screen play is being prepared by Albert Hackett and Frances Goodrich.

### Crane Wilbur for Megaphone "Grand Canyon"

Crane Wilbur has been signed to direct "Grand Canyon", an all-color film which George A. Hirliman will produce for Grand National.

Wilbur, who recently completed the direction on "Navy Spy" for Grand National, is now handling the megaphone on a Boris Karloff picture for Warner Brothers.

## Toronto Theatres

**LOEW'S**—Manager Jules Bernstein — Jean Harlow in "Suzy", with Franchot Tone and Cary Grant. Also Hugh Herbert, Walter Abel and Una Merkel in "We Went to College". Both M-G-M productions.

**TIVOLI**—Manager D. Krendall — Universal's "My Man Godfrey", starring William Powell and Carole Lombard. Also George Raft and Dolores Costello Barrymore in "Yours for the Asking", a Paramount picture.

**UPTOWN**—Manager Jack Arthur — Paramount's "Texas Rangers", with Fred MacMurray, Jack Oakie and Jean Parker.

**IMPERIAL**—Manager Tom Daley — Loretta Young and Don Ameche in Helen Hunt Jackson's "Ramona", a 20th Century-Fox production.

**SHEA'S**—Manager Jerry Shea — Francis Lederer and Ann Sothorn in "My American Wife", a Paramount picture. On the stage, Blackstone the Magician.

**EGLENTON**—Manager Bob Eves — Will Rogers, Janet Gaynor and Lew Ayres in the Fox picture "State Fair". Also "Pepper", starring Jane Withers and Irvin S. Cobb, a 20th Century-Fox picture.

**HOLLYWOOD**—Manager Raymond Allen — Paramount's "Three Married Men", with Mary Brian and Lynne Overman. Also "The Case Against Mrs. Ames", starring Madeleine Carroll and George Brent, a Walter Wanger production.

**MADISON**—Manager Tom Brady — "Song of Happiness", a Soviet Russia picture with English titles.

**CASINO**—Manager Harold Kay — Columbia's "End of the Trail", with Jack Holt. Also stage show.

**ROYAL ALEXANDER**—Manager W. J. Breen—2nd week Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Romeo and Juliet", starring Norma Shearer, Leslie Howard and John Barrymore.

**Warner Bros. Will Make 20 Pictures in England**



Booked by All the  
Big Circuits Because  
It Is a Sure-Fire  
Box Office Draw in  
All Theatres!

**A Glorious Musical  
Romance of Today!**

It's Just the Kind of  
Picture You Want  
Just When You  
Want It to Boost  
Your Theatre Receipts!

## "Limelight" is a Delight

With its beautiful love story, glorious singing,  
lilting music and sensational dancing.

**Get Dates Quick - Now!**



Tillie Losch, Dancing Star of  
"The Garden of Allah", in Cast!

**An Attraction You Can Exploit to  
the Limit and Reap Rich Rewards!**

One of Regal's  
"Coronation 16"  
Group, Chosen from  
the Best Product of  
Britain's Big Studios!

Distributed in Canada by  
**Regal Films Limited**

You Can Always  
Depend on Regal  
for the Best of  
Box Office Hits!  
This is One!